

SENATE BILL No. 259

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-20-41.

Synopsis: STEM education. Establishes the dual credit STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) associate degree pilot program.

Effective: July 1, 2015.

Grooms

January 7, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Education & Career Development.



First Regular Session 119th General Assembly (2015)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2014 Regular Session and 2014 Second Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 259

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 20-20-41 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
- 2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 3 JULY 1, 2015]:
- 4 **Chapter 41. Dual Credit STEM Associate Degree Pilot Program**
- 5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the**
- 6 **commission for higher education established under IC 21-18-2-1.**
- 7 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "I-STEM Resource Network"**
- 8 **refers to a partnership of:**
- 9 **(1) public and private postsecondary educational institutions;**
- 10 **(2) elementary and secondary schools;**
- 11 **(3) businesses;**
- 12 **(4) governmental entities; and**
- 13 **(5) nonprofit STEM education providers.**
- 14 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "STEM" refers to the**
- 15 **educational disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and**
- 16 **mathematics.**



1 **Sec. 4. (a) The dual credit STEM associate degree pilot program**
2 **is established to assist secondary school students in at least five (5)**
3 **schools selected by the department to have access to courses that**
4 **would allow a student to obtain an associate degree in a STEM**
5 **related field from a state educational institution on or before the**
6 **date the student graduates from high school.**

7 **(b) The department, in consultation with the:**

8 **(1) I-STEM Resource Network;**

9 **(2) commission; and**

10 **(3) state educational institutions;**

11 **shall develop a plan, in a manner prescribed by the department, to**
12 **select schools to participate in the pilot program and to coordinate**
13 **access to dual credit courses from state educational institutions**
14 **that are necessary for a student to obtain an associate degree in a**
15 **STEM related field on or before the student graduates from high**
16 **school. The department, in consultation with state educational**
17 **institutions, shall determine the feasibility of coordinating the types**
18 **of STEM associate degree programs offered at the selected school.**

19 **Sec. 5. On or before November 1, 2018, the department shall**
20 **submit a report to the general assembly in an electronic format**
21 **under IC 5-14-6 that includes:**

22 **(1) an evaluation of a selected school's performance under**
23 **IC 20-31-8 after implementation of the pilot program; and**

24 **(2) recommendations to the general assembly concerning the**
25 **steps necessary to allow high school students to obtain dual**
26 **credit courses necessary for the student to obtain an associate**
27 **degree in a STEM related field on or before the date the**
28 **student graduates from high school.**

29 **Sec. 6. This chapter expires July 1, 2019.**

